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ABSTRACT

Two hundred eighty-two articles, books, reports, editorials, theses, dissertations and conference papers published between 1946 and 1969 are listed in this bibliography. Legal, medical, psychiatric, and social aspects of the battered child syndrome are covered by these publications. An additional section includes 19 abstracts of research studies of child neglect and abuse which appeared in various issues of "Research Relating to Children." These studies represent an exploration of many aspects of the problem of the battered child: the incidence of child abuse; the roles of family, community and social worker; child care practices; underlying behavioral factors; legislation and its effectiveness; child protective services and their effectiveness; an epidemiologic study; methods of casework intervention. This bibliography is of potential use to the professional worker or student in the field, as well as to the lay reader. (NH)

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BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE BATTERED CHILD

Free copies of this Bibliography are available from the Children's Bureau. The Bureau will also be glad to send you a kit of literature on the battered child which includes information on protective services and child neglect. A separate sheet is attached for your convenience in requesting these materials.

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V. RESEARCH STUDIES REPORTED TO THE CLEARINGHOUSE

The following abstracts appear in various issues of Research Relating to Children, as indicated. The Clearinghouse has only the information given in the abstracts. Further information may be obtained through a search of the literature or by writing directly to the investigator.

A STUDY OF THE FAMILIES OF ABUSED CHILDREN IN THE HOSPITAL (11-U-11)

Purpose: A pilot study to determine whether there are common factors among families of minor children thought to have suffered abusive treatment by the parent or parents.
Subjects: 44 minor children whose X-ray studies indicate strong probability of abusive treatment, deduced from the sites and estimated dates of the injuries, i.e., some old, some new fractures.

Methods: Medical charts, social service material, reports from other hospitals where the study patients have been admitted, Social Service Exchange reports. At a later point it is hoped to interview the parents.
Duration: 1959-1962.
Investigator(s): Elizabeth Elmer, M.S.S., Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.
Publications: See references.

PHYSICAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN (11-U-12)

Purpose: To determine the incidence of injury and death of children from physical abuse by their parents.
Subjects: Injured children.
Methods: Survey of hospitals, district attorneys, and pediatricians on a nationwide basis. Detailed investigation of local cases occurring during 1959.
Duration: 1959-1961.
Investigator(s): Henry K. Silver, M.D., Professor, and C. Henry Kempe, M.D., Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, Colo. 80220.
Publications: See references.

STUDY OF FAMILIES THAT NEGLECT AND ABUSE THEIR CHILDREN (13-Y-3)

Purpose: To verify the behavioral syndromes of parents that neglect and abuse their children. An exploratory study of 120 selected cases has been completed. Records of two public child welfare agencies and one voluntary protective agency were used.
Methods: Propositions were abstracted from the exploratory study. They defined the family interaction patterns and the behavioral uniformities of this group of families and the distinguishing differences among the subgroups within the total classification. Through an analysis of 150 new cases, this study seeks to test these propositions using for 120 the previous criterion of a complaint of parental neglect and/or abuse of the children and then taking a random sample of the total number of active cases in a public child welfare agency to determine what cases within this sample conform to the behavioral configurations previously established. Those which fall within this classification will be compared with the others on the specific factors stated in the schedule.
Investigator(s): Leontine R. Young, D.S.W., Executive Director, Child Service Association, 284 Broadway, Newark, N. J. 07104.
Cooperating group(s): Research Foundation, Ohio State University; National Institute of Mental Health, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: Wednesday's Children: A Study of Child Neglect and Abuse. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1964. (195 pp., $5.95).

NEGLECTED AND ABUSED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES (15-V-15)

Purpose: Followup study of former patients of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh traumatized as a result of physical neglect or abuse (Research Relating to Children, Bull. No. 11-U-11), to examine: (1) subsequent physical, intellectual, and emotional health and functioning of the 43 living children; (2) certain social and psychological factors among families of these children.
Subjects: Children who had (1) multiple bone injuries revealed by X-ray film; (2) absence of clinical bone disease; and (3) either absence of a history of trauma, or positive evidence of neglect or abuse. Fifty such children have been found in an 11-year period; three died in the hospital and four others died after discharge.

Twenty-three of the children were under six months of age.
Methods: Comparable data will be sought on each child and family, and several hypotheses will be explored. Sources of data are home interviews of families, pediatric, psychological, and psychiatric examinations of children, Children's Hospital records, and records of collateral agencies.
Duration: June 1962-May 1964.
Investigator(s): Elizabeth Elmer, M.S.S., Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital; Thomas McHenry, M.D., Bertram Girdany, M.D., and John B. Reinhart, M.D., Staff Physicians, Children's Hospital, and Department of Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.
Cooperating group(s): National Institute of Mental Health, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: Social Work 5:4:98-102, October 1960; see references.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AND THE COMMUNITY (15-V-16)

Purpose: (1) To correlate adult physical cruelty against children, primarily in the home, with an epidemiology of violent antisocial behavior which, during maturity, tends to vector into succeeding generations; (2) to discredit frequent allegations of accidental injury or death to small children as, in fact, intentional assault by parents or other adults.
Subjects: Orthopedic surgeons, chief residents of charity hospitals, supervisors of prisons and child detention institutions, pediatricians, etc.
Methods: In-depth interviews of the above-selected subjects; statistical analyses of emergency department entry records of charity hospitals; individual case findings of physicians and penologists. Correlation with juvenile court social workers and medical administrators.
Findings: Preliminary studies of data indicate a direct correlation of childhood cruelty to later adult violence. Somewhat less specific evidence of epidemiological impacts. Strong indication in the latter approach, however, of "neurosis-violence contagion" horizontally within family and vertically in succeeding generations.
Duration: February 1959-October 1962.
Investigator(s): Dr. Milton Golin, (formerly) Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, 1155 - 15th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Cooperating group(s): Various institutions in Chicago, Miami, and Duluth.

THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORKER IN A CHILD PROTECTIVE AGENCY (16-Y-16)

Purpose: To study the tasks, role performance, and skills of social workers providing protective services to children who are neglected or abused, and whose parents are unable or unwilling to provide the necessary care and protection for their children.
Subjects: 65 professional caseworkers in 18 district offices covering all parts of the State, employed by Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.
Methods: Study aims to tap the experience of child protective workers so as to provide some systematic understanding of how they spend their time, skills utilized, and how they feel about it. It is proposed to relate these findings to certain personal data gathered from these workers including their social characteristics, background, training, experience, attitudes, aspirations, and professional orientation. Analysis of written reports, administration and analysis of questionnaires, focused interviews, direct observation.
Duration: June 1962-May 1963.
Investigator(s): Robert M. Mulford, M.S.S.W., General Secretary, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 43 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, Mass. 02108; and Andrew Billingsley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of California School of Social Welfare, Berkeley, Calif. 94720.

Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: The Role of the Social Worker in a Child Protective Agency: A Comparative Analysis.

PRELIMINARY STUDY OF TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND SHELTER CARE (17-Y-7)

Purpose: Complaints of alleged child neglect and/or cruelty and abuse usually come to police attention in communities without social services available on a 24-hour basis. This has resulted in (1) young children being removed from their homes when immediate social services could have avoided their removal; (2) children left in unsatisfactory or dangerous home situations due to lack of shelter care facilities and/or inevitable delay court action; and (3) many cases unnecessarily referred to court without initial efforts to effect satisfactory adjustment without court action. This project will attempt to locate communities which have 24-hour casework service and explore their experience with regard to initial procedures, shelter care, and court referral practice.
Duration: September 1962-August 1963.
Investigator(s): Sherwood Norman, Director of Detention Services, National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 44 E. 23rd St., New York, N. Y. 10010. (Reported in Current Projects in the Prevention, Control, and Treatment of Crime and Delinquency, Summer 1963.)

A STUDY OF BATTERED CHILD LEGISLATION (18-U-22)

Purpose: To identify and formulate the issues arising from the drafting of child abuse statutes through a study of the legislative settings in which such laws were enacted; to determine what reporting has, in fact, occurred and what other consequences have taken place in cases arising after the enactment of child abuse legislation.
Duration: 1964-indefinite.
Investigator(s): Monrad G. Paulsen, J.D., Dean, University of Virginia Law School, Charlottesville, Va. 22903; and Graham E. Parker, J.D., Research Associate, School of Law, Columbia University, New York, N. Y. 10027.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: See references.

PARENTS OF BATTERED CHILDREN (18-U-23)

Purpose: To gain understanding of the problem of why parents attack children. To get a clearer picture of dynamics of such behavior and to explore possibilities of treatment and prevention.
Methods: Parents of battered children will be studied in as much depth and for as long a time as possible. Psychiatric interviews and psychological testing will be employed whenever possible. Home visits will be made by social workers and joint interviews with parents, psychiatrist, and social worker will be held.
Duration: 1962-indefinite.
Investigator(s): C. Henry Kempe, M.D., Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics, and Brandt F. Steele, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, Colo. 80220.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: See references.

A STUDY OF BATTERED CHILDREN IN DENVER (18-U-24)

Purpose: To acquire general information concerning battered children and their families: types of injuries, family characteristics, attitudes, and behavior patterns; to study effects of injury on children's behavior; to study actions taken by Denver Welfare Department, police, and courts; and to analyze implications for the city
Subjects: Caseload of all battered children in Denver for one year.
Methods: Statistical analysis of actions taken on behalf of battered children, family patterns and attitudes, battered children's behavior.
Duration: June 1964-June 1965.
Investigator(s): Betty Johnson, M.S.W., Supervisor, Child Welfare Division, and Harold Morse, B.A., Supervisor, Research and Statistics, Denver Department of Welfare, Denver, Colo. 80204.
Publications: The Battered Child: A Study of Children with Inflicted Injuries. Denver: Department of Welfare, March 15, 1968. (60 cents); Children 15:4:147-152, July-August 1968.

IMPACT OF RECENT LEGISLATION ON CHILD ABUSE IN SELECTED MIDDLE-ATLANTIC STATES (19-RT-1)

Purpose: To examine, on an exploratory basis, the impact of recently enacted legislation in a number of Middle-Atlantic States on identification of abused children and on effectiveness of services in their behalf.
Subjects: Official and voluntary agencies in selected Middle-Atlantic States--Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York; and all registered cases of child abuse under the new law in New York City from July 1, 1964 to July 1, 1965--over 300 cases.
Methods: Interviewing professional staff of responsible service agencies in the five selected States, to provide descriptive background of statewide experience in the region under different administrative and legal patterns; abstracting information from records of all cases of child abuse registered in New York City during the first 12 months under the new legislation, to describe epidemiologic and demographic characteristics of families involved and administrative patterns which have evolved in handling the cases.
Duration: April 1965-1966.
Investigator(s): Elinor F. Downs, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor of Public Health Practice, and Betty Simons, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant in Public Health Practice, School of Public Health and Administrative Methods, Columbia University, 600 W. 168th St., New York, N. Y. 10032.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: Child Abuse: A Perspective on Legislation in Five Middle-Atlantic States, and a Survey of Reported Cases in New York City. New York: Columbia University School of Public Health and Administrative Medicine, February 1966; see reference.

EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDY OF CHILD ABUSE--DEVELOPMENTAL PHASE (19-RT-2)

Purpose: A multiphased nationwide study of child abuse. Initial phase will investigate cases of child abuse reported in states having mandatory reporting legislation. Subsequent phases of research will investigate cases of child abuse not reported through mandatory reporting systems. Last phase will assess effects of community measures in treatment and prevention of child abuse.
Methods: National survey, gathering and analysis of news clippings, interviews, community relations activities on national, state, and local levels, etc.
Duration: June 1965-indefinite.

Investigator(s): David G. Gil, D.S.W., Associate Professor, Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass. 02154.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

A STUDY OF NEGLECT AND ABUSE OF CHILDREN AFTER PROTECTIVE SERVICE (19-RT-3)

Purpose: To evaluate the effectiveness of alternative programs of service intended to reduce the recurrence of neglect and abuse of children in families known to protective service agencies.
Subjects: Families previously served in an intensive service project and selected samples of contrast population.
Investigator(s): Harold Lewis, D.S.W., Professor of Social Research, and Julius A. Jahn, Ph.D., Professor of Social Research and Director, Research Center, University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work; Julia Ann Bishop, Executive Director, Philadelphia Society to Protect Children, Philadelphia, Pa. 19146.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: Designing More Effective Protective Services - Intervening in the Recurrence Cycle of Neglect and Abuse of Children. Philadelphia, Pa. 19104: Research Center, University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work, June 1967.

A PROTECTIVE SERVICES CENTER TO PROVIDE A RANGE OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES IN WHICH CHILDREN ARE NEGLECTED OR ABUSED (19-RT-4)

Purpose: To demonstrate the effectiveness of an integrated approach in providing the varied services needed by families in which children are neglected or abused; and to develop new treatment approaches through using combinations of professional skills and by training nonprofessional personnel to work with children and parents.
Investigator(s): Marion J. Spasser, M.S.W., University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration; Barbara Rocah, M.D., Psychiatric Consultant, and G. Lewis Penner, Executive Director, Juvenile Protective Association, 12 E. Grand Ave. 60611; Mary Sullivan, Associate Professor, Jane Addams Graduate School of Social Work, University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill. 60680.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

STUDY OF CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (19-RT-5)

Purpose: To study child protective services offered by public welfare departments on behalf of children in their own homes who are subjected to parental neglect and abuse and whose parents do not voluntarily seek help.
Methods: A combination of structured instruments, analysis of documents, focused interviews, and direct observation.
Investigator(s): Andrew Billingsley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of California School of Social Welfare, Berkeley, Calif. 94720.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

FIFTY FAMILIES STUDY. PHASE II: INFANT ACCIDENT (21-MB-2)

Purpose: To identify the child-care practices, including neglect and abuse, that may contribute to infant accidents; to identify possible differences between abused and non-abused infants; to ascertain differences between families displaying deviant and adequate child care; to examine and evaluate staff decisions about discharge planning and followup care of patients; and to determine factors affecting the actual outcome for patients. (Research Relating to Children, Bull. Nos. 11-U-11 and 15-V-15.)
Subjects: Between 75 and 100 infants under 13 months of age and living in a family, who are presented to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for X-ray following a traumatic episode.
Methods: On the basis of a research interview of the mother in the home and pediatric and behavioral evaluation, infants are selected for longitudinal study. Longitudinal study involves: second research interview of the mother in the home, interview of father, observation of mother feeding baby, mailed questionnaire, a fifth step not yet determined, final evaluation of the baby, and a final interview with the parents.
Duration: October 1964-September 1968.
Investigator(s): Elizabeth Elmer, M.S.S., Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital; Grace S. Gregg, M.D., Assistant Clinic Professor, John B. Reinhart, M.D., Associate Professor of Child Psychiatry, Byron Wight, M.A., Research Associate, Department of Pediatrics, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.
Cooperating group(s): National Institute of Mental Health, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: Clinical Pediatrics 7:12:720-725, December 1968; see references.

THE BATTERED CHILD SYNDROME--A STUDY OF CHILDREARING PRACTICES (22-MB-1)

Purpose: To investigate the attitudes and feelings of parents regarding child-rearing practices; to help in differentiating the psychological factors within the family milieu which contribute to the physical abuse of children.
Subjects: Families of abused children; control group of normal families.
Methods: Experimental and control families are compared on a series of scales designed to measure attitudes and feelings related to a variety of childrearing behavior practices. In addition, 80 items of factual information regarding a wide variety of personal information on the families will be gathered and prepared for computerizing. Analysis of variance and factor analysis will be used to study the data.
Duration: July 1966-1970.
Investigator(s): Morris J. Paulson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medical Psychology, University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024.

EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDY OF CHILD ABUSE--NATIONWIDE SURVEY (23-RH-1)

Purpose: To examine (1) incidence rates of child abuse in the U. S. population and in selected subsegments; (2) characteristics of individuals and families involved in child abuse; (3) circumstances surrounding and precipitating incidents of child abuse, including data on injuries; (4) patterns of health, welfare, and legal intervention measures, and their effects. For purposes of this study, child abuse is defined as "nonaccidental physical attack or injury, from minimal to fatal injury, inflicted upon children by persons caring for them". (See Research Relating to Children, Bull. No. 19-RT-2.)
Methods: Every incident of child abuse reported in 1967 and 1968 throughout the U. S. in accordance with reporting legislation in all the states is channeled to the study through central registries set up during 1966 in each state. Standardized precoded instruments are used to describe each incident and the individuals involved.

Every incident which occurred during 1967 in a representative sample of 38 cities and counties is subjected to a more intensive study and analysis by means of comprehensive, standardized, partially precoded research schedules. Prior to the 1967 and 1968 nationwide surveys a pilot study was conducted in California, and a nationwide public opinion survey explored knowledge about, and attitudes toward, physical abuse of children and the adults involved in such incidents.
Duration: July 1968-June 1969.
Investigator(s): David G. Gil, D.S.W., Associate Professor, Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass. 02154.
Cooperating group(s): Children's Bureau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
Publications: See reference.

BATTERED CHILD RESEARCH PROJECT (24-MB-4)

Purpose: To explore factors which are critically associated with battering of young children, and to develop methods of casework intervention in the family processes which result in such abuse.
Subjects: 45 to 50 families in which an infant under the age of four years is suspected of having received injuries at the hands of his parents or guardians. Families will be referred from one or two London teaching hospitals.
Methods: Team of social worker and caseworkers, in close cooperation with psychiatric, pediatric, and welfare consultants, begins work with the parents as soon as the child is brought to the hospital. Exploratory research is based on clinical interviews, continuing medical and psychosocial assessment, and evaluation of the casework treatment process. Treatment is guided by theoretical assumptions and hypotheses drawn from existing literature, e.g., the knowledge of factors determined by internal characteristics of abusive parents, and family, social, and biological influences.
Duration: 1968-1971.
Investigator(s): Joan Court, M.S.W., Senior Social Worker, Angela Skinner and Raymond Castle, Caseworkers, Carolyn Okell, B.Sc., Research Assistant, and Arthur F. Hughes, Executive Officer, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 1 Ridinghouse St., London W.1, England.
Cooperating group(s): St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, London W.2.
Publications: Monograph or book planned, 1972.

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